

## ABSTRACT

A method of controlling routing of packets in a packet switching network  
5 including an infrastructure of packet switching nodes interconnected by packet  
transport links, and a plurality of access nodes to which a routing path, defined by  
data held in packet switching nodes located along said routing path, may be directed  
in said infrastructure for a given network address, said method comprising:

assigning one or more network addresses to a first access node as one or  
10 more home addresses of said first access node;

dynamically allocating a first said home address to a first mobile node being  
served via a communications link by said first access node, at least one routing path  
in said infrastructure being directed to said first access node for said first home  
address;

15 altering routing in said infrastructure when said first mobile node receives  
service from a second access node by transmitting routing update messages to a  
limited subset of said packet switching nodes, said subset being localised in the area  
of a connecting path between said first and second access nodes, such that at least  
one routing path in said infrastructure is directed to said second access node for said  
20 first home address; and

subsequently altering routing in said infrastructure such that at least one  
routing path in said infrastructure is directed to said first access node for said first  
home address, and allocating said first home address to a second mobile node being  
served by said first access node.